competitive international prices against the global tenders floated by STC/MMTC/PEC (Government of India Undertakings).

During 2006-07, 53.79 lakh tons of wheat was imported at weighted average price of US $ 205.34 per ton *i.e.* Rs.8,214.00 per ton (approx.). Further, during 2007-08, 18.44 lakh tons of wheat has been imported at a weighted average price of US $ 366.83 per ton *i.e.* Rs. 14,673.00 per ton (apprpx.).

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

Appointment of unregistered doctors in hospitals

†1562. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only those doctors who are registered with Medical Council of India (MCI) can apply for jobs in Government and private hospitals;

(b) whether Government is aware that many private hospitals are appointing doctors who are not registered with MCI;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government against such private hospitals and doctors?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) A doctor having permanent registration from State Medical Council/Medical Council of India can apply for job in Government and Private Hospitals.

(b) No.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Shortage of medical facilities

1563. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that as pointed out in the Sixteenth Report of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) as per the population norms based on 2001 Census, there is a shortage of 13804 Sub Centres, 3353 Primary Health Centres and 2581 Community Health Centres, and as against a requirement of 22669 Doctors in PHCs, only 22273 were in position, resulting in a shortfall of 1793 Doctors, in CHCs, as against a requirement of 15640 Specialists, only 3979 Specialists were in position as on March, 2006 resulting in a shortfall of 9413 Specialists (75 per cent shortage); and

(b) what is the present status and how does it compare with neighbouring/ advanced countries?